

# ECONOMIC CONDITIONS in New Hampshire



**March 2000**

Volume 100, Number 03

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## Employment in New Hampshire 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 99 vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 98

### Computer Services Tops 10,000 for First Time

New Hampshire's 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1999 saw an overall increase in covered employment of over 15,000 as compared to the same period 1998. Services and Retail trade were responsible for close to 85 percent of this increase. The remainder was almost completely accounted for in Public Administration and Wholesale trade totals.

Services led the way in the rise in number of jobs added. Employment of 199,594 in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1999 represented an increase of over three percent. This equates to an additional 6,403 people working in Services.

Computer and data processing services ranked first in industry growth. The rapid spread of internet usage helped this industry group break the 10,000 mark for the first time. In 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1998, total employment stood at 8,287. In the same period 1999, that figure jumped to 10,214. This added close to 2,000 more jobs, a significant increase of 23.3 percent over 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1998.

Coming in a close second to Services was Retail trade. Employment came in at just over a five percent increase from the 1998 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter total. The number of jobs added was a significant 6,317.

■ Agriculture, forestry, and fishing experienced more than a six percent increase in jobs added from 5,796 in 1998 to 6,155 in 1999. This is a total of 359 jobs added in this division.

■ Public Administration employment figures crept ever closer to 30,000, reaching 29,660 employed in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1999. This represented growth of 4.2 percent and 1,201 additional jobs over the 1998 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter figure. Wholesale trade climbed to 32,005, an increase of 3.9 percent over the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1998 total. Construction added 909 jobs, a 3.4 percent increase over the 26,404 jobs for the same period in 1998.

■ FIRE (Finance, insurance, and real estate) experienced a 2.5 percent increase over the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1998 figure of 31,439 for an additional 778 jobs. This brought the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1999 total to 32,217.

#### Highest growth over the 1998 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter totals included:

**Industry Group:**  
❖ Computer (23.3%)

**Division:**  
❖ Retail (5.0%)  
❖ Government (4.2%)  
❖ Wholesale trade (3.9%)  
❖ Construction (3.4%)

#### Most jobs added for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1998 over the same period in 1999:

❖ Services (6,403)  
❖ Retail (6,317)  
❖ Public Administration (1,201)  
❖ Wholesale trade (1,187)

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Labor Market Information  
Bureau

*Employment*  
**SECURITY**

## Employment in New Hampshire

continued from page 1

Slight increases or declines during 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter comparisons of 1998-1999: TCU (Transportation, Communications, & Utilities) saw a slight increase of 0.6 percent or 154 jobs added over the 1998 figure of 25,725. Nonclassified Establishments saw a drop of only 106 jobs from the same period last year. Manufacturing experienced close to a 2.0 percent decline ending at 105,298 in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1999. Mining added 27 jobs in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1999 over the same period, 1998.

A few divisions saw only a slight gain or decline. However, the majority showed growth of anywhere between approximately 2.5 percent to just over 6.0 percent. Overall totals for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter

1999 show an employment growth rate of close to three percent over 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 1998. This equates to 15,125 total jobs added.

*Rick Ricker*

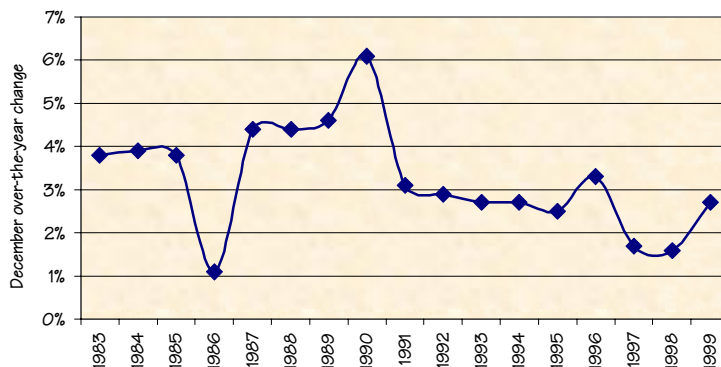
	3rd Q 99	2nd Q 99	1st Q 99	4th Q 98	annual average	3rd Q 98	3rd Q 98 to 3rd Q 99	
							change	percent change
Agriculture	6,155	6,077	4,402	5,023	5,414	5,796	359	6.19%
Mining	488	480	377	453	449	461	27	5.86%
Construction	27,313	26,478	23,092	26,080	25,741	26,404	909	3.44%
Manufacturing	105,298	107,149	107,488	107,539	106,869	107,404	-2,106	-1.96%
Transportation, Communications, & Utilities	25,879	25,688	24,981	26,787	25,834	25,725	154	0.60%
Wholesale	32,005	32,102	31,291	31,006	31,601	30,818	1,187	3.85%
Retail	132,373	127,924	123,092	127,645	127,758	126,056	6,317	5.01%
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	32,217	31,820	31,168	31,593	31,699	31,439	778	2.47%
Services	199,594	206,010	201,793	203,297	202,674	193,191	6,403	3.31%
Public administration	29,660	28,555	27,960	27,738	28,478	28,459	1,201	4.22%
Nonclassified	970	1,056	1,181	1,062	1,067	1,076	-106	-9.85%
Total	591,953	593,339	576,824	588,224	587,585	576,828	15,125	2.62%

## Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a fixed market basket of consumer goods and services. The CPI-

U provides a way for consumers to compare what the same market basket of goods cost a month or a year ago.

The Over-The-Year Change in the CPI-U Climbed  
Back over Two Percent in December 1999



The December 1998 to December 1999 change in the CPI-U was 2.7 percent. The December to December change has been greater than two percent every year this decade, except 1997 and 1998 when it was 1.7 and 1.6 percent, respectively. The CPI-U consists of eight components. Energy grew the fastest, 13.4 percent. Other goods and services increased 5.1 percent followed by medical care (3.7 percent), transportation services (2.3 percent), housing (2.2 percent), education and communication (1.6 percent), and recreation (0.8 percent). Apparel saw the only decrease over-the-year, -0.5 percent.

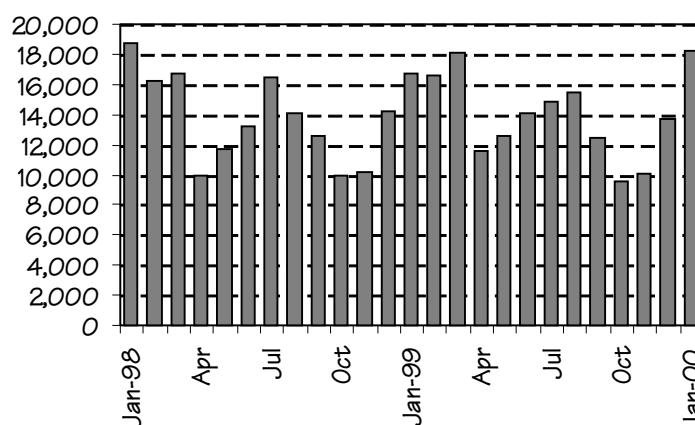
*Elisabeth Picard*

**Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity**

Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:	Jan-00	Dec-99	Jan-99	Change from Previous			
				Month		Year	
				Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Initial Claims	3,123	4,636	3,705	-1,513	-32.6%	(582)	-15.7%
Continued Weeks	18,216	13,716	16,780	4,500	32.8%	1,436	8.6%

**Claims  
Activity****Unemployment Compensation Fund, January 2000**

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of January:	\$303,157,014.13
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$214.45
Net benefits paid:	\$4,280,696.99
Net contributions received during the month:	\$947,518.86
Interest Received:	\$0.00

**Trust  
Fund****Continued  
Weeks Claimed**

Jan-98 through Jan-00

Continued Weeks  
Claimed increase was  
characteristic of January.

Jan-00	Dec-99	Jan-99	change from previous	
			Month	Year
168.7	168.3	164.3	0.2%	2.7%

United States  
All Urban Areas (CPI-U)  
(1982-1984=100)

**Consumer Price  
Index**

*New Hampshire Affirmative Action 1998*; 40 pages, January 2000.

*New Hampshire Affirmative Action 1998* contains narrative and statistical data for use in preparing affirmative action reports. The publication has information by Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) category about population, labor force, employment and unemployment, hours worked, and employment service Registered Job Seekers. Sources of this data include New Hampshire Employment Security reports, the 1990 U.S.

Decennial Census, and the New Hampshire Office of State Planning's population estimates.

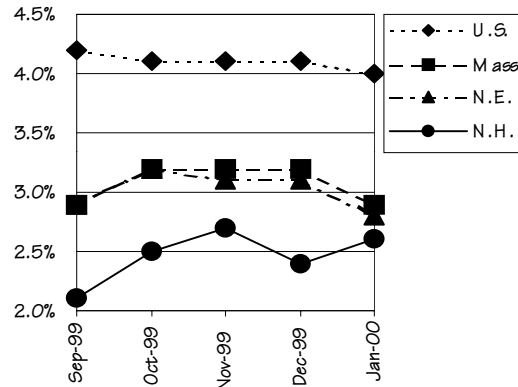
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**New Hampshire  
Affirmative Action  
1998 is released**

## N.H. and U.S. Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate

New Hampshire unemployment of 2.6 percent, was second only to Connecticut within New England and the Northeast Region.



## Unemployment Rates by Region

	preliminary Jan-00	revised Dec-99	Jan-99
United States	4.0%	4.1%	4.3%
Northeast	4.0%	4.1%	4.5%
New England	2.8%	3.1%	3.4%
Connecticut	2.2%	2.8%	3.3%
Maine	3.6%	3.7%	4.1%
Massachusetts	2.9%	3.2%	3.2%
New Hampshire	2.6%	2.4%	3.1%
Rhode Island	3.8%	3.8%	4.7%
Vermont	2.7%	2.7%	3.3%
Mid Atlantic			
New Jersey	3.9%	4.2%	4.6%
New York	4.9%	4.8%	5.4%

## Labor Force Estimates

by Place of Residence

	New Hampshire	Sep-99	Oct-99	Nov-99	revised Dec-99	preliminary Jan-00
Unemployment Rate		2.1%	2.5%	2.7%	2.4%	2.6%
Civilian Labor Force		667,350	671,340	673,150	677,320	682,520
Number Employed		653,140	654,550	655,310	661,140	664,900
Number Unemployed		14,210	16,790	17,840	16,180	17,620
United States (in thousands)						
Unemployment Rate		4.2%	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%
Civilian Labor Force		139,475	139,697	139,834	140,108	140,910
Number Employed		133,650	133,940	134,098	134,420	135,221
Number Unemployed		5,825	5,757	5,736	5,688	5,689

## Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

By Place of Establishment

Industry	Sep-99	Oct-99	Nov-99	revised Dec-99	preliminary Jan-00
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	600,400	596,800	600,800	610,700	614,300
Mining*	400	400	400	400	300
Construction	23,800	24,100	24,200	24,800	26,100
Manufacturing	106,200	106,000	106,200	106,200	105,700
Durable Goods	74,500	74,400	74,300	75,900	75,500
Nondurable Goods	31,700	31,600	31,900	30,300	30,200
Transportation and Public Utilities	21,500	21,900	21,700	21,600	21,400
Trade	156,300	156,100	157,000	161,200	163,700
Wholesale Trade	31,300	31,300	31,800	32,200	32,300
Retail Trade	125,000	124,800	125,200	129,000	131,400
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	31,800	31,900	31,700	33,100	32,600
Services	180,700	177,300	179,500	180,800	180,500
Government	79,700	79,100	80,100	82,600	84,000

\* Since N.H. mining employment exhibits no clear seasonal pattern, these estimates are not adjusted.

## Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	Jan-00	Dec-99	Jan-99
Number of Workers	preliminary	revised	
Total Civilian Labor Force	676,250	675,270	650,640
Employed	655,610	659,580	627,580
Unemployed	20,640	15,690	23,060
Unemployment Rate (% of labor force)	3.1%	2.3%	3.5%

## Unemployment Rates by Area

	Jan-00	Dec-99	Jan-99
	preliminary	revised	

### U.S. and Regional States

United States	4.5%	3.7%	4.8%
New England	3.5%	2.8%	4.1%
Connecticut	2.7%	2.3%	3.8%
Maine	4.7%	3.5%	5.3%
Massachusetts	3.6%	2.9%	3.9%
New Hampshire	3.1%	2.3%	3.5%
Rhode Island	4.7%	3.3%	5.6%
Vermont	3.5%	2.6%	4.2%
Northeast	4.6%	3.7%	5.1%
New Jersey	4.4%	3.9%	5.1%
New York	5.5%	4.5%	6.0%
Pennsylvania	4.5%	3.6%	5.1%

### Labor Market Areas (NH Portions Only)

Berlin LMA	5.0%	5.2%	3.4%
Seabrook-South Hampton, NH Portion			
Boston MA-NH PMSA	7.3%	4.6%	10.0%
Claremont LMA	2.6%	2.1%	3.0%
Colebrook LMA	4.7%	6.0%	3.0%
Concord LMA	2.7%	1.8%	3.0%
Conway LMA	3.0%	2.2%	3.7%
NH Portion Hartford-Lebanon			
VT-NH LMA	1.4%	0.9%	1.6%
NH Portion Keene-Brattleboro			
NH-VT LMA	3.1%	2.1%	3.6%
Laconia LMA	2.9%	2.0%	3.5%
Lancaster LMA	5.0%	4.4%	5.2%
Salem-Derry, NH Portion Lawrence MA-			
NH PMSA	4.2%	3.6%	5.0%
Littleton LMA	3.3%	2.9%	3.4%
Pelham, NH Portion Lowell MA-NH			
PMSA	5.6%	5.1%	5.9%
Manchester LMA	2.8%	2.0%	3.1%
Nashua LMA	3.0%	2.4%	3.5%
Peterborough LMA	2.8%	2.1%	3.4%
Plymouth LMA	2.6%	2.1%	2.8%
NH Portion Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-			
ME PMSA	2.8%	1.9%	3.5%

### Counties

Belknap	3.0%	2.1%	3.6%
Carroll	3.0%	2.1%	3.7%
Cheshire	3.2%	2.2%	3.9%
Coos	4.9%	5.0%	3.7%
Grafton	2.1%	1.7%	2.4%
Hillsborough	2.9%	2.3%	3.3%
Merrimack	2.7%	1.7%	2.9%
Rockingham	3.6%	2.9%	4.3%
Strafford	2.9%	1.8%	3.8%
Sullivan	2.7%	2.2%	3.1%

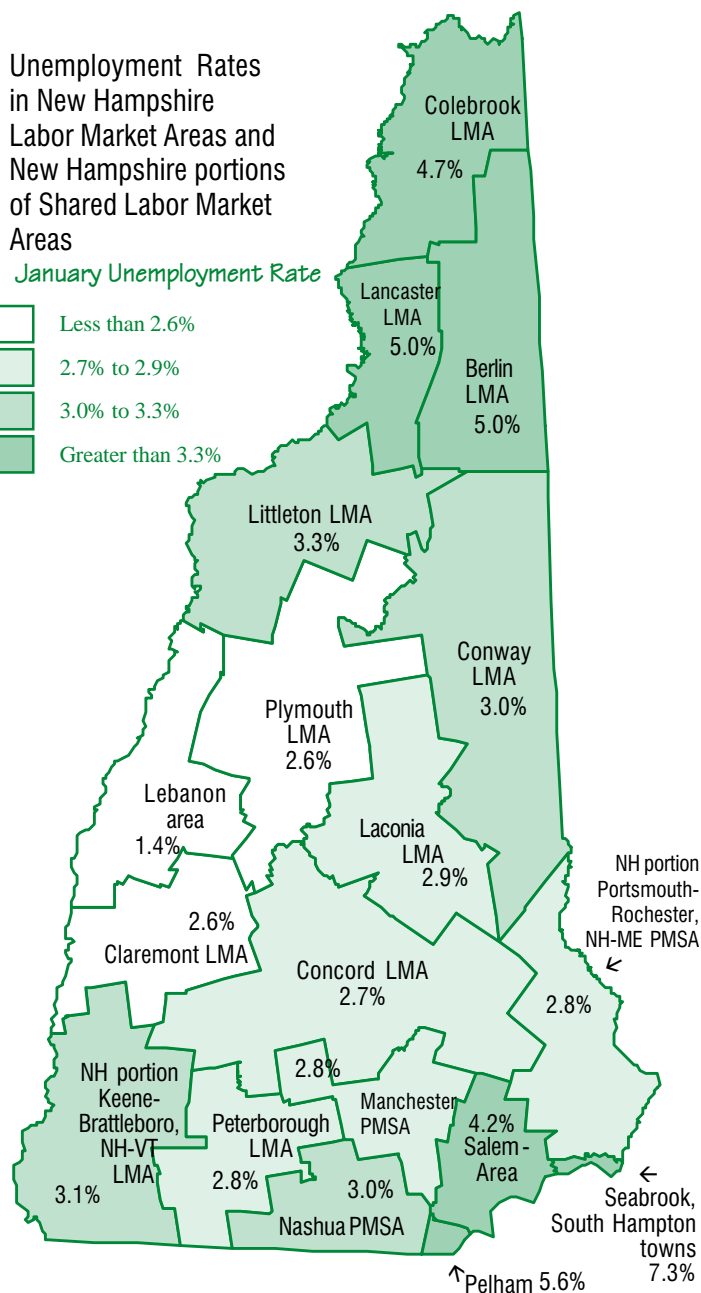
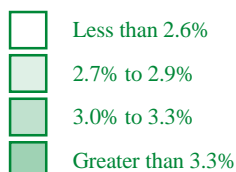
## Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

## Not Seasonally Adjusted

By Place of Residence

Unemployment Rates  
in New Hampshire  
Labor Market Areas and  
New Hampshire portions  
of Shared Labor Market  
Areas

January Unemployment Rate





Over-the-month declines in Services and Retail Trade were typical of those seen in January.

**More detailed industry information is available at our Web site**

### Monthly Not Seasonally Adjusted New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

Current Employment Statistics Employment by Industry - Number of Jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Net Change	
	Jan-00 (preliminary)	Dec-99 (revised)	Jan-99	From Previous	
				Month	Year
Total All Industries	603,900	616,000	587,300	-12,100	16,600
Private Employment Total	521,600	531,100	506,900	-9,500	14,700
Mining	300	400	400	-100	-100
Construction	24,000	25,200	21,700	-1,200	2,300
Manufacturing	105,700	106,500	107,600	-800	-1,900
Durable Goods Total	75,600	76,100	76,300	-500	-700
Nondurable Goods Total	30,100	30,400	31,300	-300	-1,200
Transportation & Public Utilities	21,500	22,000	20,600	-500	900
Trade Total	160,600	164,800	154,100	-4,200	6,500
Wholesale Trade	32,000	32,100	31,100	-100	900
Retail Trade	128,600	132,700	123,000	-4,100	5,600
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	32,400	32,900	31,900	-500	500
Services	177,100	179,300	170,600	-2,200	6,500
Government Total	82,300	84,900	80,400	-2,600	1,900

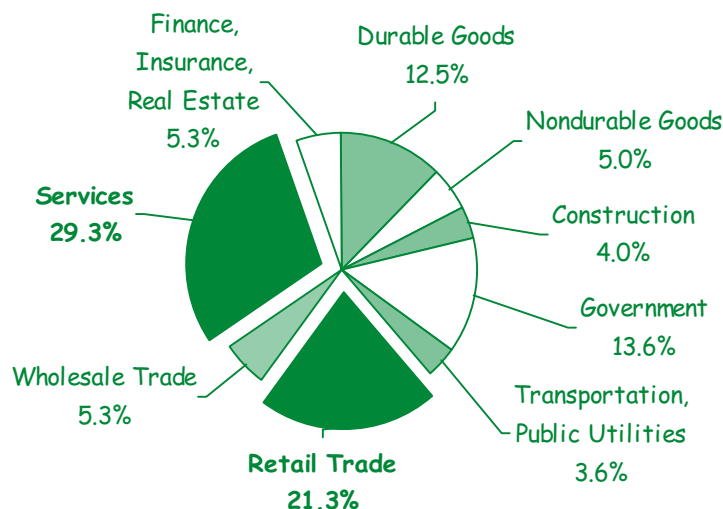
Note: Totals are rounded to hundreds

Manchester PMSA saw an annual increase in total jobs despite lackluster over-the-month numbers.

### Current Employment Statistics (CES) Manchester PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change	
	Jan-00 (preliminary)	Dec-99 (revised)	Jan-99	from previous:	
				Month	Year
Total All Industries	103,500	105,700	100,700	-2,200	2,800
Private Employment Total	92,400	94,000	89,400	-1,600	3,000
Construction & Mining	4,800	5,100	4,400	-300	400
Manufacturing	15,100	15,000	14,600	100	500
Durable Goods	10,600	10,500	10,000	100	600
Transportation & Public Utilities	6,300	6,500	6,000	-200	300
Trade Total	25,800	26,400	24,700	-600	1,100
Wholesale Trade	6,600	6,600	6,600	0	0
Retail Trade	19,200	19,800	18,100	-600	1,100
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	7,700	7,900	7,700	-200	0
Services	32,700	33,100	32,000	-400	700
Government Total	11,100	11,700	11,300	-600	-200

### Divisional Percentages of Nonfarm Employment



### Current Employment Statistics Nashua PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Jan-00 (preliminary)	Dec-99 (revised)	Jan-99	from previous:	
				Month	Year
Total All Industries	95,200	97,700	95,400	-2,500	-200
Private Employment Total	86,500	89,000	86,600	-2,500	-100
Construction & Mining	3,200	3,200	2,900	0	300
Manufacturing	27,300	27,400	27,600	-100	-300
Durable Goods	21,300	21,400	21,300	-100	0
Nondurable Goods	6,000	6,000	6,300	0	-300
Transportation & Public Utilities	3,200	3,400	3,100	-200	100
Trade Total	25,100	26,000	24,400	-900	700
Wholesale Trade	4,700	4,700	4,600	0	100
Retail Trade	20,400	21,300	19,800	-900	600
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	4,600	4,800	5,200	-200	-600
Services	23,100	24,200	23,400	-1,100	-300
Government Total	8,700	8,700	8,800	0	-100

Nashua PMSA saw stable over-the-month activity with Construction & Mining, Manufacturing Nondurable Goods, Wholesale Trade, and Government.

### Current Employment Statistics Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-ME PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Jan-00 (preliminary)	Dec-99 (revised)	Jan-99	from previous:	
				Month	Year
Total All Industries	116,900	120,300	113,100	-3,400	3,800
Private Employment Total	95,700	98,600	92,000	-2,900	3,700
Construction & Mining	3,500	4,000	3,500	-500	0
Manufacturing	18,100	18,400	18,200	-300	-100
Durable Goods	11,400	11,600	11,400	-200	0
Nondurable Goods	6,700	6,800	6,800	-100	-100
Transportation & Public Utilities	3,800	3,900	3,500	-100	300
Trade Total	32,300	33,600	30,400	-1,300	1,900
Wholesale Trade	6,000	5,900	5,600	100	400
Retail Trade	26,300	27,700	24,800	-1,400	1,500
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	6,500	6,500	6,200	0	300
Services	31,500	32,200	30,200	-700	1,300
Government Total	21,200	21,700	21,100	-500	100

Over-the-month job losses spread over all areas with Trade and Services accounting for over sixty percent of the total.

### Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan-00 (prelim.)	Dec-99 (revised)	Jan-99	Jan-00 (prelim.)	Dec-99 (revised)	Jan-99	Jan-00 (prelim.)	Dec-99 (revised)	Jan-99
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$531.73	\$554.27	\$512.71	40.1	41.8	39.5	\$13.26	\$13.26	\$12.98
Durable Goods	526.91	553.62	518.89	40.1	42.1	40.1	13.14	13.15	12.94
Nondurable Goods	541.60	556.08	499.27	40.0	41.1	38.2	13.54	13.53	13.07
<b>MANCHESTER PMSA</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$547.02	\$599.19	\$547.86	38.2	40.9	39.7	\$14.32	\$14.65	\$13.80
Durable Goods	542.26	585.71	555.96	38.0	40.2	41.0	14.27	14.57	13.56
<b>NASHUA PMSA</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$552.02	\$575.79	\$574.06	40.5	42.4	39.7	\$13.63	\$13.58	\$14.46
Durable Goods	535.01	568.08	557.35	40.5	43.2	39.5	13.21	13.15	14.11
Nondurable Goods	606.92	602.80	625.46	40.3	40.0	40.3	15.06	15.07	15.52
<b>PORTSMOUTH-ROCHESTER, NH-MA PMSA</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$554.69	\$581.40	\$475.58	41.8	42.5	37.3	\$13.27	\$13.68	\$12.75
Durable Goods	612.70	632.64	535.23	43.3	43.6	39.5	14.15	14.51	13.55
Nondurable Goods	451.98	493.28	379.91	39.2	40.7	33.8	11.53	12.12	11.24

Average weekly earnings declined in January, the result of diminished average weekly hours. Portsmouth has seen an increase of nearly \$90 over January 1999.

## For Additional Information



### New Hampshire Employment Security

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Local Area Unemployment Statistics .....	228-4175
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Occupational Employment Statistics .....	228-4120
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